

4. company is consequence as you can
guess. At present we have with us
a young cricket or grasshopper which
is Donald's familiar spirit and
lives somewhere in the kitchen -
Donald speaks for joy when it
hops but as yet he won't touch it
himself and I have to act as
intermediary!

We had Judith with us for a few
days but Donald was a bit possessive
so far as I was concerned - probably
the result of thinking he has my
undivided attention.

I don't believe I mentioned that
Kenneth is very fit and quite recovered
from his ruptured eardrum.

The very best wishes from us for this
coming year. I shall look forward
to seeing you when you come to
Perth.

Sincerely,
Mona Lyall

To HAH
Jan. 1943
From:
Mona
Lyall.
Gift to
her son
Donald

Dear Mr. Hall.

Your book
was quite the most beau-
tiful present we received. It was
marvellous of you to think of
him - far away as you are - and
I wish you could see the enormous
pleasure he gets when being read
to. "Winnie-the-Pooh" will be - and
already is - very treasured indeed
and he does love the pictures too.
Thank you so much from us
both - for I appreciated your
thought as much as the lad
liked the book.

We had a very happy Christmas
or, rather, as happy as possible
without Kenneth. It was our
first without ~~the~~ him.

4. company in consequence as you can
guess. At present we have with us
a young cricket or grasshopper which
is Donald's familiar spirit and
lives somewhere in the Kitchen -
Donald shrieks for joy when it
hops but as yet he won't touch it
himself and I have to act as
intermediary!

We had Judith with us for a few
days but Donald was a bit possessive
so far as I was concerned - probably
the result of thinking he has my
undivided attention.

I don't believe I mentioned that
Kenneth is very fit and quite recovered
from his ruptured cordium.

The very best wishes from us for this
coming year. I shall look forward
to seeing you when you come to
Perth.

Sincerely,

Mona Lyall

187 Thomas St.
Subaco.

January 22nd 1943.

Dear Mr. Hall.

Your book for Donald
was quite the most heart warming
present we received. It was so
marvellous of you to think of
him - far away as you are - and
I wish you could see the enormous
pleasure he gets when being read
to. "Winnie-the-Pooh" will be - and
already is - very treasured indeed
and he does love the pictures too.
Thank you so much from us
both - for I appreciated your
thought as much as the lad
liked the book.

We had a very happy Christmas -
or, rather, as happy as possible
without Kenneth. It was our
third without Kenneth here.

2. In the morning we went by trolley bus to the Burns in Nedlands for Christmas dinner. Donald sat at the end of the table with Nellie and ate two helpings of turkey and vegetables with great enjoyment.

He really did me proud in the matter of behaviour - which isn't quite always the case.

Tea we had with Margaret - and it made the end of the day perfect.

I'm sorry I haven't a post to enclose with this but Margaret tells me you will be in Perth soon so you'll be able to see Donald's progress for yourself. Films are hard to come by and almost as difficult to have developed. However it's nothing to moan about as I think most activity along

3. these lines is reserved for the "spotting" plans.

I have had only very sparse news from Kenneth - a stereotyped cable dated Dec. 24th being the last and no letters later than Nov. 12th. At last I am almost beginning to feel that it's quite possible we may see him reasonably soon. Though mixed with my hopes is a fear that if they do come back, it may mean on to New Guinea, and that must be hellish country.

Donald had a badly infected throat some weeks ago and lost six pounds in weight. He seems to have put most of it on again but his cheeks are still rather pale for him. He's beginning to talk fairly plainly and is much more interesting